



March 1, 2021

The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon  
Chair, House Committee on Corporations  
Rhode Island State House  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

**Re: *SUPPORT for Community Solar Legislation - House Bill No. 5327 by Potter, Baginski, Felix, Batista, Ruggiero, Speakman, Knight, Kislak, Shallcross Smith, Fogarty***

To Chairman Solomon:

Please consider this written testimony in support of community solar legislation that would take an important step forward for Community Solar in Rhode Island.

Oak Square Partners is a solar project development company. Since our formation in 2016, we have developed projects in both the RI REGrowth program and the Community Net Metering Pilot program. We support this proposed expansion because it will increase access to energy savings to a greater number of RI households while also providing a viable path to financing for project developers.

The primary purpose of community solar, which was passed into law in 2016 by the General Assembly, is to allow members of a community the opportunity to share the benefits (savings on their electricity bill and powering their household by clean energy) of solar power even if they cannot install solar panels on their property. As Rhode Island continues to move forward toward its clean energy goals by 2020 and beyond, we believe that this legislation is a critical step in that it will allow all Rhode Islanders – whether renter or owner, whether rich or poor – to be a part of our clean energy future.

Thank you in advance for considering this important proposal and please do not hesitate to reach out if we can provide any additional information to your committee.

Sincerely Yours,

Sevag Khatchadourian  
Oak Square Partners, LLC

cc: Representative William W. O'Brien, First Vice Chair  
Representative Justine A. Caldwell, Second Vice Chair  
Representative Stephen M. Casey



Representative Michael W. Chippendale  
Representative Barbara Ann Fenton-Fung Member  
Representative Bernard A. Hawkins Member  
Representative Katherine S. Kazarian  
Representative Brian Patrick Kennedy  
Representative Charlene Lima  
Representative Steven J. Lima  
Representative Robert D. Phillips  
Representative Brandon C. Potter  
Representative Patricia A. Serpa  
Representative Mary Ann Shallcross Smith